

Preliminary Amendment

Attorney Reference: 041301/0284989

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REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter the present Supplemental Preliminary Amendment in place of the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the Application.

The present Supplemental Preliminary Amendment corrects inadvertent typographical errors with respect to the claim numbering contained in the Appendix of the Preliminary Amendment. An additional change has also been made to claim 3.

No new matter has been added.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX: VERSION TO SHOWS CHANGES MADE TO APPLICATION

In the Claims

The claims were amended as follows:

3. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the polyester has a Tg of [at least 75°C] about 80°C and a molecular weight of about 7,000.
4. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the polyester has a Tg of about 77°C and a molecular weight of about 7,500.
5. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the coating further comprises filler material.
6. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the coating further comprises one or more ultra-violet light absorbers.
7. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the coating further comprises one or more optical brighteners.
8. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises a film of heat-resistant material selected from polyesters, polyamides, polyimides, polycarbonates, polysulphones, polypropylene and cellophane.
9. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the coating has a thickness in the range 0.5 to 5.0 μm [, preferably 1.5 to 3.5 μm , typically 1.6 to 2.0 μm].
10. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, further comprising a subcoat between the substrate and coating.
12. (Amended) A thermal transfer medium according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the other surface of the substrate has a heat-resistant backcoat.

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15. (Amended) A method of forming an overlay on a receiver material, comprising superposing a thermal transfer medium in accordance with [any one of claims 1 to 13] claim 1 and a receiver material; and applying localised heating to the thermal transfer medium to form an overlay on the receiver material.
17. (Amended) Receiver material bearing an overlay produced by the method of claim 15 [or 16].
19. (Amended) Receiver material according to claim 17 [or 18], wherein the receiver material has an image-receiving surface comprising vinyl chloride/vinyl acetate copolymer.
20. (Amended) Receiver material according to claim 17[, 18 or 19,] in the form of an identification card bearing a full colour image produced by thermal transfer printing and text and/or a bar code produced by mass transfer printing of colorant.